

NASA CELEBRATES  
**ASIAN AMERICAN  
& PACIFIC ISLANDER**  
HERITAGE MONTH

1

00:00:04,004 --> 00:00:06,390

NASA Celebrates Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

2

00:00:06,390 --> 00:00:07,390

Hello, everybody.

3

00:00:07,390 --> 00:00:08,349

Ni hao.

4

00:00:08,349 --> 00:00:09,379

Hi. Konnichiwa.

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00:00:09,379 --> 00:00:10,529

Hello. Dai ga ho.

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00:00:10,529 --> 00:00:12,400

Hello. My name is Wensheng Huang.

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00:00:12,400 --> 00:00:14,651

Ni holo ma. Ngoiyga miang hi Gee Mo Gay.

8

00:00:14,651 --> 00:00:16,250

Hi, I'm Kelly Busquets.

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00:00:16,250 --> 00:00:18,230

I'm an engineer with the Goddard Space Flight Center.

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00:00:18,230 --> 00:00:18,889

Mabuhay.

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00:00:18,889 --> 00:00:21,622

My name is Tony Arviola and I work at Langley Research Center.

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00:00:21,622 --> 00:00:22,770

My name is Kartik Sheth.

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00:00:22,770 --> 00:00:26,220

I'm an Astrophysicist working in the Science Mission Directorate.

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00:00:26,220 --> 00:00:27,140

This is Kinji Miki.

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00:00:27,140 --> 00:00:28,570

My name is Jenny Staggs.

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00:00:28,570 --> 00:00:29,570

My name is Steve Shih.

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00:00:29,570 --> 00:00:33,609

I'm the Associate Administrator for Diversity and Equal Opportunity here at NASA.

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00:00:33,609 --> 00:00:34,489

Ahnyeonghaseyo.

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00:00:34,489 --> 00:00:39,120

Currently I'm rotating in as the communications lead for NASA's Human Research Program,

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00:00:39,120 --> 00:00:43,800

but I am also a flight controller in Mission Control for the International Space Station.

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00:00:43,800 --> 00:00:45,250

I'm a research materials engineer.

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00:00:45,250 --> 00:00:46,690

I'm a program analyst.

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00:00:46,690 --> 00:00:48,010

I work as a software engineer.

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00:00:48,010 --> 00:00:51,590

So I work in our Environmental Management Office in our Center Operations Directorate

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00:00:51,590 --> 00:00:52,899  
at Langley Research Center.

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00:00:52,899 --> 00:00:54,990  
I do research on electric propulsion.

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00:00:54,990 --> 00:00:59,420  
Electric propulsion is like that really  
futuristic stuff you see in SciFi movies where

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00:00:59,420 --> 00:01:01,030  
the rocket shoots out blue flames.

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00:01:01,030 --> 00:01:06,760  
I came here from Japan a long time ago hoping  
that I could work for NASA.

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00:01:06,760 --> 00:01:12,841  
Actually this is my favorite picture that  
I kept near my desk for a long time.

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00:01:12,841 --> 00:01:14,180  
I am a proud American.

32

00:01:14,180 --> 00:01:16,270  
I am proud to be an Asian American.

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00:01:16,270 --> 00:01:19,301  
And I am so proud to be a part of the NASA family.

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00:01:19,301 --> 00:01:22,398  
I am second-generation of Vietnamese and Taiwanese  
descent.

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00:01:22,398 --> 00:01:23,648  
I grew up in the Philippines.

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00:01:23,648 --> 00:01:24,648

I'm Indian-American.

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00:01:24,648 --> 00:01:25,568

I am Filipino,

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00:01:25,568 --> 00:01:27,340

both of my parents are from the Philippines.

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00:01:27,340 --> 00:01:28,480

I come from India.

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00:01:28,480 --> 00:01:33,189

I continue to ensure my children do not lose touch with their heritage by teaching them

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00:01:33,189 --> 00:01:35,130

the language as well as English.

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00:01:35,130 --> 00:01:43,930

I am really honored and blessed to be part of an organization that embraces diverse backgrounds.

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00:01:43,930 --> 00:01:48,240

But never in my wildest dreams did I expect to be working at NASA.

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00:01:48,240 --> 00:01:53,000

When I came to Johnson Space Center, specifically, and was able to find that community, it was

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00:01:53,000 --> 00:01:56,200

so nice to, kind of, have that instant connection.

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00:01:56,200 --> 00:01:58,729

Space is a very unforgiving environment.

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00:01:58,729 --> 00:02:04,130

It often takes a very diverse team of people

to be able to overcome space challenges.

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00:02:04,130 --> 00:02:08,220

I'm so grateful for the opportunity to work at an agency where our work

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00:02:08,220 --> 00:02:10,067

benefits the entire world.

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00:02:10,067 --> 00:02:14,769

So no matter what your background is, I say to you, if you are interested in doing space,

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00:02:14,769 --> 00:02:16,760

there will be a place for you to contribute.

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00:02:16,760 --> 00:02:26,000

I am profoundly deaf, which makes me a unique person who is a deaf Asian employed at NASA.

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00:02:26,000 --> 00:02:30,319

I had to overcome both language and hearing barriers.

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00:02:30,319 --> 00:02:33,730

I'm an ambitious woman and I do not let anyone discourage me.

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00:02:33,730 --> 00:02:35,569

You notice my speaking,

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00:02:35,569 --> 00:02:38,704

I have some speaking problems on top of a Japanese accent,

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00:02:38,704 --> 00:02:42,980

but in NASA no one cares about it.

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00:02:42,980 --> 00:02:45,180

They just care what I am doing.

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00:02:45,180 --> 00:02:49,101

So it makes me very happy and proud of myself. One hundred percent.

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00:02:49,101 --> 00:02:53,860

Make sure that you chase passion and not chase success.

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00:02:53,860 --> 00:02:56,749

If you chase passion, success will follow.

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00:02:56,749 --> 00:03:03,739

Follow your passion and dreams and always look to overcome obstacles, rather than running

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00:03:03,739 --> 00:03:04,980

away from these.

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00:03:04,980 --> 00:03:07,520

Visit as many different places as you possibly can.

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00:03:07,520 --> 00:03:09,049

Travel if you can, as well.

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00:03:09,049 --> 00:03:12,220

It helps build out your perspectives, build out your world view.

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00:03:12,220 --> 00:03:16,537

The theme for 2021 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month is

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00:03:16,537 --> 00:03:19,600

Advancing Leaders Through Purpose-driven Service.

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00:03:19,600 --> 00:03:25,943

Thank you for joining us in celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

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00:03:25,943 --> 00:03:27,830

Happy AAPI Heritage Month.

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00:03:27,830 --> 00:03:29,060

Daedahnhee kamsahamnida.

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00:03:29,060 --> 00:03:30,129

Alright, thank you.

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00:03:30,129 --> 00:03:30,835

Paalam.

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00:03:30,835 --> 00:03:32,088

Zai jian.

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00:03:32,088 --> 00:03:33,434

Namaste. Vanakkam.

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00:03:33,434 --> 00:03:35,201

Bye bye. Joi gin.

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00:03:35,201 --> 00:03:36,299

Arigato gozaimasu.